

A LETTER from a Perion¹¹ that dwelt half a Year in the MOON concerning BIRDS of Passage.



Of a Comet or BLAZING STAR. that is to be



THis Book is Given Gratis Up One Pair of
Stairs at the *Anod yne Necklace, Temple-Bar.*
At Mr *Jeremiah Pain's*, the First Toy-shop in
Pope's Head Alley, from *Cornhil.* — At Mr. *Greg's*
at *Charing-Cross*: and by *R. Bradshaw, &c.*

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SIR, A Treatise lately Given Gratis at the
Anodyne Necklace at Temple-Bar, and at Mr.
Pain's in Pope's Head Alley, &c. of the Recess
of Birds of Passage into the MOON, during
their Absence from this World, induces me to
give you the following Account of what I ob-
served during my Abode in that *Lunar World*.

Being on the Seas in a Trading Voiage on the
African Coast, our Ship was at the End of Sum-
mer run a-ground on the Island of *Madagascar*.

Our Company being 14 in Number, by the
Help of our Boat got a shore, and at Times
cleared our distressed Vessel of what Necessaries
for Life we should be most in want of. And we
built our selves little Huts to dwell in, being
uncertain when we shou'd meet with any Help.

In this Island I observed great Flocks of a
prodigious large Bird † which those (very few
Heathen) Inhabitants we met with, call a *Ruck*,

And which in *Winter*, when cold Weather
came on, and the Summer Birds of Passage
such as *Swallows, Cuckoos, &c.* go away, gather-
ed together and made a Flight away, and we
saw them no more. Just as the *Storks* in *Holland*
every *Winter* go away, & are not seen till *Spring*,
when they appear again in great Numbers.

We preserved our selves during a rigorous
Winter, which being over, in *Spring* these large
Birds began to appear amongst us again, and in
a few Days we had prodigious Numbers of 'em.

This very Thing set my Thoughts to work,
wondring within my self, where these Fowls had

† *Authors say, that this Bird called a RUCK, is*
very numerous about the African Islands, and is a
Bird of such prodigious Strength and Bigness, that it
frequently takes up and carries away to prey upon, a
young Lion, or other Beast of that Bulk, with its Claws
or Talons, as easily as Kites fly away with a Chicken.

See the Word *Ruck* in *Mr. Philips's New*
World of Words, under the Letters R U.

been all the Winter : Upon which I set upon the following Project. These Birds breeding in the Island, I took about 30 of their young ones, and bred them up by Hand, so familiar & tame, that they wou'd eat and drink with me, and follow me up & down wherever I went.

Having thus tamed these my Migratory Birds I contrived the following Invention.

I made a certain Number of Braces for these Fowls, such as Bird-catchers make for those Birds they call their *Brace-Birds*, and which is a Kind of a Case of Straps to go round the Body of the Bird, not unlike to a Kind of Harness:

With these Braces I Cas'd and harnass'd 20 of the stoutest of my Birds, and fixed these Braces at equal Distances to a long Ashen Pole that weighed very light, to each End of which Pole, and also down from the Middle to keep it steady, I fastned a Rope, whose Ends I joined together to another single Rope at Bottom, to which I fastned a flat Piece of Board for myself to sit on.

Having finished this my Invention, I did not doubt but that when the Season shou'd come towards Winter of the Departure of these Birds, but that they wou'd fly away with this Invention along with them, they being a prodigious large strong Fowl. And again as I did not doubt, but that they wou'd make to some Land, I was resolv'd to commit my self to their Carriage, rather than perish in that Island, which would most certainly happen to us all, when our Provisions should be spent, if we shou'd see no Ship to succour us. I did not doubt but my Birds could perform this, being my self of a very slender low Stature, and consequently a very light Person, and the Birds very strong.

When therefore I perceived that these *Fowls* began to depart, I carried my 20 stoutest Birds into a great wide Common, and there I Harnas-

sed and Braced them, and fastned them to the Ashen light Pole, and placed my self upon the flat Piece of *Wood*, as in the foregoing Draught.

After a little while, they all together took to flight, and without any manner of Difficulty Soared up all one Way into the Air with their Braces, the Machine, and me sitting on it, I not doubting but that they wou'd cross over to some other Land. But instead of crossing over towards any Land, they all with, (in a manner) one Wing Soared *bolt upright*, and the higher they went, I observed the less they laboured in flying: So that when they had got above the Clouds (which they soon did) they scarce moved their Wings at all, but were carried strait *Upwards* as it were by a natural Tendency and Instinct: So that moving themselves never so little, it is scarce possible to think what a Swiftness they were carried with.

And again, as all Weight is from the Attraction of the Earth, the higher we went, the lighter we grew, so that when we were above this terrestrial Atmosphere, where the Earth had no Attraction, I nor my Birds weighed *Nothing at all*, 'till we arrived at another Attraction, *viz* that of the *Moon*, and by Consequence they nor I had no Impediment of Weight to hinder their Tendency naturally upwards with an incredible Swiftness. I took indeed some Biskets and a Bottle of Water along with me, but there proved no want of it, for the Air being purer the higher we went, it had no nitrous Particles to prey upon my Spirits, and cause Hunger, so that I wanted no Food at all.

And whenever we slept (as doubtless my Birds also did) we were carried equally along by a natural Impulse, and Force strait *Upwards*.

The Clouds I SAW all under me, and the *Sea* appeared GREATER and GREATER, and

and the Earth under me grew *Less* and *Less* and at last the *Moon* was monstrously GREAT.

Again, the Earth now began to appear with a Brightness like another Moon from the Reflexion of the Sun; and even as in the *Moon* we discern certain Spots, so the Ocean, Mountains, and Quarters of the Earth seem'd like the same Spots. At length we began to approach to another Earth with Clouds, Mists, Vapours, and Fogs about it, abounding with those Birds which at that Season had left this Earth, such as were my *Rucks*, *Swallows*, *Nightingales*, *Storks*, &c.

So that my Birds seem'd now to be arrived at a Climate that naturally agreed to them.

And here my *Ruck* Carriers set me down.

Being thus arrived in this Strange World, the first Thought I had, was to take Care of my Birds that they might carry me back again, when the Season should again come round of their leaving the *Moon*, to return again to this our Earth, in Company with *Swallows*, *Martens*, *Swifts*, *Storks*, *Nightingales*, *Cuckoes*, &c.

And as in our Passage great Numbers of *Swallows*, *Martens*, *Swifts*, *Storks*, and all other Summer Birds accompanied us, so we met great Flocks of *Woodcocks*, *Fieldfares*, *Redwings*, & other Birds making towards the Earth from the *Moon*, for their Winter Habitation here.

To say any Thing of the Country, or any Thing else during my Summer Stay there, which was Winter in this World, is not to my present Purpose, which is only to let you know, that I found there in the Lunar World those very Birds which were absent from this World, at that Winter Season in this World, but was Summer there, such were in great Numbers *Swallows*, *Martens*, *Swifts*, *Nightingales*, *Storks*, *Cuckows*, and the same Kind as my Carrier *Rucks* were;

But

But I did not see one Woodcock, Fieldfare, or other Winter Bird of Passage, they being all gone into this our World at that time, & only Go thither when the Summer Birds come from thence.

I kept my Birds still tame with me, and having been an Inhabitant there a whole Summer, (for Summer there, is when we have Winter here) at the End of Summer there, I harnessed my Birds again, and set my self on my Stool, and away they flew with me and my Travelling Engine, performing just the same Journey back again to this World, as before they had done from this Earth to the Moon.

And after we had left the Attraction of the Moon, they happened to alight down with me on the Island of *Madera*, where there being some *European Ships*, I came Home to my Native Country again. *I am Yours, &c. Lunaris.*

Of a Comet or Blazing Star that is to be.

WE'LL hope for clearer Weather and better Success on *Wed. Sept. 14. 1726.* than was for the late total Eclipse of the Moon, when in the Afternoon there will be a very great Eclipse of the Sun, of which not only a particular Account, but also an Account of ALL the Eclipses of the Sun that **W I L L** happen for 15 Years to come will be Published, & Given Gratis in *July* and *August* next, at the *Anodyne Necklace* at *Temple-Bar*, and at *Mr. Pain's* in *Pope's Head-Alley* in *Cornhill*, &c. as the late Account of the Great Eclipse of the Moon was.

And as Comets or Blazing Stars, are now found to be a certain Species of Planets, that revolve about the Sun in Elliptical Orbits, whose Periodical Times, and Motions are as constant, certain, and regular as those of the Planets:

So I cannot help **HERE** telling the World, that the Revolution or Return, coming now on
fast

fast upon us, of the Orbit of that Great and Dreadful Fiery Comet or Blazing Star, which appeared in the Year 1680, and is still in the Memory of many now living, — Therefore

An Account will be also *Given Gratis* in July & Aug. 1726, When that Blazing Star will by the Revolution or Return of its Orb again appear to us, THAT Point of its Orb that contains it, being now in a very swift Motion towards us.

And a very Large and Fiery Blazing Star it WILL be, with a Blazing Fiery Tail extended over a great Part of the Heavens, and will be seen for several Days and Nights together.

If any one shou'd doubt of the Truth of this, viz. that such a Great Blazing Star is to appear,

Such Persons are desired to consider, that if those Eclipses do but happen which have been, & will in Aug. 1726 be, foretold to a Minute for 15 Years to come, & which will be found to be true,

Then accordingly, they may believe what is here said of a Blazing Star that is to be. The foretelling of one, being as amazing, as the other.

A D V E R T I S E M E N T.

IT being natural for Persons harass'd with either the *Secret Disease*, or a *Gleet*, to have a Difficulty in telling their Case to another,

And yet no Disorders of the Body furnishes them with more Perplexities about their Condition than these do, that require the Advice of another, what to do under these Circumstances.

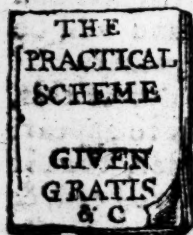
And again, There is no Person labouring under the *Secret Disease*, or a *Gleet*, but had much rather inform themselves by reading a *Book* about their Condition Privately Alone, than to tell another of it, that no *Body* may know any thing of it, than to tell another of it,

Therefore all such Persons are advised to peruse the *Venerical* and *Gleet Dispensatories*, which fully inform every Person in all their Difficulties, concerning their Condition, And

fully inform every Person in all their Difficulties, concerning their Condition.

And as it would be an endless Expence to GIVE such Volumes AWAY Gratis, and yet it is highly necessary that every one should read them, therefore these Dispensatories are together at Six Pence Price.

Or, any Person may have the Reading of them GRATIS Up One Pair of Stairs at the *Anodyne Necklace* without *Temple-Bar*, provided they Return them Undamaged in a Month's Time.



Just Published,

A New Edition of

THE PRACTICAL SCHEME

of the *Secret Disease*, a *Gleet* and *A Broken Constitution* by Fast Living, Former Cures, Salivations, Mercury, Self-Defilements, &c. This highly useful little Book for all Persons in any of these unhappy Circumstances to read to inform themselves of what they cannot so well speak to another about, is Given Gratis Up One Pair of Stairs at the Sign of the Celebrated



Recommended by Dr. Chamberlen for Children's Teeth, next the *Rose Tavern* without *Temple-Bar*, - At Mr. Jer. Pain's in *Pope's-Head-Ally* in *Cornhill*, and the other Places above.

Beware therefore of the Poisonous Mercurial Counterfeits under strange Names made up by ignorant Women, of the SPECIFICK, and other Remedies in the Practical Scheme, and placed in the Neighbourhoods where the Practical Scheme is now Given away, to CATCH Customers that happen to mistake one Shop for another.

F I N I S.